

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:
decoding a digital data stream received at a video decoder;
passing a decoded data stream to an encoder; and
encoding the decoded data stream at a bit rate below a bit rate of the digital data stream to form a lower bit rate data stream.
2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
down sampling the data stream prior to passing the decoded data stream.
3. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
storing data corresponding to the lower bit rate data stream in a non-volatile storage medium.
4. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
encrypting the lower bit rate data stream; and
busing the encrypted lower bit rate data stream to a distribution interface.
5. The method of Claim 1 comprising:
sending the digital data stream to a display device if the display device is local to the video decoder; and
sending the lower bit rate data stream to a display if the display device is remote from the video decoder.
6. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
wirelessly transmitting the lower bit rate data stream to a display device.
7. The method of Claim 1 wherein the encoding comprises:
compressing the decoded data stream.
8. An apparatus comprising:
a video decoder having a digital input interface;
an encoder coupled to the video decoder to encode a decoded data stream received from the video decoder; and

- a non-volatile storage unit coupled to the video decoder.
9. The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the video decoder comprises:
down sampling logic to down sample a data stream.
 10. The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the video decoder comprises:
an encryption engine; and
a description engine.
 11. The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein the decoder comprises:
a compression engine.
 12. The apparatus of Claim 11 wherein the compression engine performs
MPEG encoding.
 13. The apparatus of Claim 8 further comprising:
a local area network interface.
 14. The apparatus of Claim 8 further comprising:
a wireless network interface.
 15. The apparatus of Claim 8 further comprising:
a host processor coupled to the video decoder.
 16. A system comprising:
a video decoder;
an encoder coupled to the video decoder to encode a video stream at a
bit rate below a bit rate of a source stream;
a wireless interface operably coupled to the video decoder to transmit
the video stream at the bit rate below the bit rate of the source stream; and
a display to receive and display the video stream.
 17. The system of Claim 16 further comprising:
a non-volatile storage unit coupled to the video decoder.
 18. The system of Claim 16 further comprising:
a local interface operably coupled to the video decoder to transmit the
source stream at a full bit rate; and
a display coupled to the local interface.

19. An apparatus comprising:
means for decoding an incoming video stream into a decoded video stream; and
means for encoding the decoded video stream into a lower bit rate video stream.
20. The apparatus of Claim 19 further comprising:
means for down sampling the decoded video stream.
21. The apparatus of Claim 19 further comprising:
means for storing the lower bit rate video stream.
22. The apparatus of Claim 19 further comprising:
means of selecting the lower bit rate based on a transmission medium to be used.
23. A computer readable storage media containing executable computer program instructions which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method comprising:
decoding a digital data stream received at a video decoder; and
encoding the decoded data stream at a bit rate below a bit rate of the digital data stream to form a lower bit rate data stream.
24. The computer readable storage media of Claim 23 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:
down sampling the data stream prior to passing the decoded data stream.
25. The computer readable storage media of Claim 23 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:
storing data corresponding to the lower bit rate data stream in a non-volatile storage medium.
26. The computer readable storage media of Claim 23 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:
encrypting the lower bit rate data stream; and
busing the encrypted lower bit rate data stream to a distribution interface.

27. The computer readable storage media of Claim 23 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:
 sending the digital data stream to a display device if the display device is local to the video decoder; and
 sending the lower bit rate data stream to a display if the display device is remote from the video decoder.
28. The computer readable storage media of Claim 23 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:
 wirelessly transmitting the lower bit rate data stream to a display device.
29. The computer readable storage media of Claim 23 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:
 compressing the decoded data stream.